

These reports are critical to Congressional oversight and government accountability.

In 1995, Congress passed the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995. This legislation terminated or modified the statutory requirement for over 200 mandatory reports to Congress, and sunsetted most other mandatory reports after four years. The intent of the Federal Reports Elimination and Sunset Act was to end the needless expense of hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars each year on many Federal reports that are of minor value to the Congress and to our constituents—the American people. I supported that common-sense legislation then and still support the elimination of unnecessary and duplicative reports now.

However, there are many reports required by Congress that as these have been reviewed we have proven are vitally important—including the 50 reports that this legislation will continue in the area of Banking and Housing. The recurring flow of timely and accurate information from the executive branch to the Congress is essential to our oversight responsibilities as Members, and as a legislative body and our constitutional responsibility—i.e. this is part of the check & balance system of our democracy.

Support H.R. 3046.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I believe this bill strikes a balance between ending waste in Government on the one hand and preserving congressional oversight and public accountability on the other. I urge my colleagues to lend it their full support.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. KELLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3046, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 3046, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

#### WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTERS SUSTAINABILITY ACT OF 1999

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1497) to amend the Small Business Act with respect to the women's business center program, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1497

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Women's Business Centers Sustainability Act of 1999".

#### SEC. 2. PRIVATE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.

Section 29 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

"(2) the term 'private nonprofit organization' means an entity described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code;"; and

(2) in subsection (b), by inserting "nonprofit" after "private".

#### SEC. 3. INCREASED MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT AND REVIEW OF WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTERS.

Section 29 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (h) and inserting the following:

"(h) PROGRAM EXAMINATION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administration shall—

"(A) develop and implement procedures to annually examine the programs and finances of each women's business center established pursuant to this section, pursuant to which each such center shall provide to the Administration—

"(i) an itemized cost breakdown of actual expenditures for costs incurred during the preceding year; and

"(ii) documentation regarding the amount of matching assistance from non-Federal sources obtained and expended by the center during the preceding year in order to meet the requirements of subsection (c) and, with respect to any in-kind contributions described in subsection (c)(2) that were used to satisfy the requirements of subsection (c), verification of the existence and valuation of those contributions; and

"(B) analyze the results of each such examination and, based on that analysis, make a determination regarding the viability of the programs and finances of each women's business center.

"(2) EXTENSION OF CONTRACTS.—In determining whether to extend or renew a contract with a women's business center, the Administration—

"(A) shall consider the results of the most recent examination of the center under paragraph (1); and

"(B) may withhold such extension or renewal, if the Administration determines that—

"(i) the center has failed to provide any information required to be provided under clause (i) or (ii) of paragraph (1)(A), or the information provided by the center is inadequate; or

"(ii) the center has failed to provide any information required to be provided by the center for purposes of the report of the Administration under subsection (j), or the information provided by the center is inadequate;"; and

(2) by striking subsection (j) and inserting the following:

"(j) MANAGEMENT REPORT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administration shall prepare and submit to the Committees on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report on the effectiveness of all projects conducted under this section.

"(2) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include information concerning, with respect to each women's business center established pursuant to this section—

"(A) the number of individuals receiving assistance;

"(B) the number of startup business concerns formed;

"(C) the gross receipts of assisted concerns;

"(D) the employment increases or decreases of assisted concerns;

"(E) to the maximum extent practicable, increases or decreases in profits of assisted concerns;

"(F) documentation detailing the most recent analysis undertaken under subsection (h)(1)(B) and the determinations made by the Administration with respect to that analysis; and

"(G) demographic data regarding the staff of the center.".

#### SEC. 4. WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER SUSTAINABILITY PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 29 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(1) SUSTAINABILITY PILOT PROGRAM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established a 4-year pilot program under which the Administration is authorized to make grants (referred to in this section as 'sustainability grants') on a competitive basis for an additional 5-year project under this section to any private nonprofit organization (or a division thereof)—

"(A) that has received financial assistance under this section pursuant to a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement; and

"(B) that—

"(i) is in the final year of a 5-year project; or

"(ii) to the extent that amounts are available for such purpose under subsection (k)(4)(B), has completed a project financed under this section (or any predecessor to this section) and continues to provide assistance to women entrepreneurs.

"(2) CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION.—In order to receive a sustainability grant, an organization described in paragraph (1) shall submit to the Administration an application, which shall include—

"(A) a certification that the applicant—

"(i) is a private nonprofit organization;

"(ii) employs a full-time executive director or program manager to manage the women's business center for which a grant is sought; and

"(iii) as a condition of receiving a sustainability grant, agrees—

"(I) to an annual examination by the Administration of the center's programs and finances; and

"(II) to the maximum extent practicable, to remedy any problems identified pursuant to that examination;

"(B) information demonstrating that the applicant has the ability and resources to meet the needs of the market to be served by the women's business center site for which a sustainability grant is sought, including the ability to raise financial resources;

"(C) information relating to assistance provided by the women's business center site for which a sustainability grant is sought in the area in which the site is located, including—

"(i) the number of individuals assisted;

"(ii) the number of hours of counseling, training, and workshops provided; and

"(iii) the number of startup business concerns formed;

"(D) information demonstrating the effective experience of the applicant in—

"(i) conducting financial, management, and marketing assistance programs, as described in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (b), designed to impart or upgrade the business skills of women business owners or potential owners;

"(ii) providing training and services to a representative number of women who are both socially and economically disadvantaged;

"(iii) using resource partners of the Administration and other entities, such as universities;

"(iv) complying with the cooperative agreement of the applicant; and

"(v) prudently managing finances and staffing, including the manner in which the performance of the applicant compared to the business plan of the applicant and the manner in which grants made under subsection (b) were used by the applicant; and